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To: Shawn Petri, Superintendent
From: Katie Harris
Date: August 2025
Subject: Instructional Services Update

Instructional Services

Director: Katie Harris

Professional Learning: Looking Ahead to 2025–2026

The Instructional Services and Special Education Departments are excited to announce the release of our [2025-2026 Professional Learning Menu](#)—a comprehensive guide to high-quality, relevant, and customizable learning opportunities for educators across the ISD.

This year's menu was designed with feedback from educators, alignment to the ISD strategic plan goals, and a commitment to continuous improvement. Whether educators are looking to deepen instructional practices, enhance leadership skills, or explore innovative strategies, this menu offers something for every educator.

K-5 Literacy

K-5 Literacy Coach: Michelle Ewald

August is always a busy month as districts prepare for the coming school year. Here is an overview of the collaboration that is already underway:

- **Charlton Heston Academy, Fairview Elementary, and Mio Elementary** - these schools do not have an on-site literacy coach, so plans are being made with the building principals in order to facilitate weekly support through job-embedded professional learning and coaching. The details are still a work in progress, and it is anticipated that support in each building will be slightly different in order to meet staff needs.

- **Collins Elementary/HL** - participated in the 3-day Bookworms curriculum professional learning series that was provided by Open Up Resources, with the goal of getting a sense of staff needs in order to support and work alongside the building coach.

- **Roscommon Elementary School** - co-facilitated (with the building coach) a 2-day workshop that addressed analyzing incoming student data, as well as comparing Michigan's Literacy Essentials to the Bookworms curriculum, with the goal of meeting student needs beginning week 1.

This is an ongoing cycle of improvement, and grade-level teams will continue this work through weekly PLCs.

- **Statewide Coaching Network** - attended the 2-day Advanced Coaching Institute in Grand Rapids with Katie Harris and Renee Lewicki (**Grayling Elementary/Middle School** Instructional Coach).

31n Team

Behavioral Health Coordinator: Michelle Culton-Ekstrom

- Our 31n team has begun accepting referrals for sessions with students and have been scheduling individual sessions at this time.
- Our team met and reviewed our 31n Procedure Manual and have identified areas to update.
- Some team members have been actively participating in their district professional learning sessions, providing information about 31n Services and TBRI.
- I have been visiting all of our Whole Child Specialists in districts and have had an opportunity to connect with some superintendents and principals.
- We are excited to have our four remaining interns (Stacy, Christie, Heather, and Scott) make excellent progress in their Master's programs and are able to utilize the 31n program for their internship experience.
- Dr. Sloane is prepared to return to providing Whole Child Assessments and will continue to provide follow-up meetings for the students previously assessed.
- Our Student Engagement Coach, Christie, has provided TBRI training at CATIC, has met with teachers about coaching in their classrooms, and has also begun her internship at Mio.